

IN THE CLAIMS

Please ~~cancel~~ Claims 1-5.

Please ~~add~~ Claims 6-16 as follows:

~~6.~~ A machine comprising:

- (a) a dough feeding hopper;
- (b) a dough extruder comprising:
  - (i) a first dough distributor and
  - (ii) a second dough distributor, interchangeable with said first dough distributor;
- (c) a dough weigher;
- (d) a dough dimension controller;
- (e) a dough cutter; and
- (f) an extruded portion controller,

wherein:

- (g) said first dough extruder is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutter and said extruded portion controller to produce dough portions in the range of 0.1-0.7 lb. and
- (h) said second dough distributor, when interchanged with said first dough distributor, is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutter and with said extruded portion controller to produce dough portions heavier than 0.7 lb.

7. A machine according to claim 6, wherein said second dough distributor, when interchanged with said first dough distributor, is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutter and with said extruded portion controller to produce dough portions in the range of 0.7-1.5 lb.

8. A machine according to claim 6, wherein:

- (a) said dough extruder comprises a screw feeder;
- (b) said first distributor is adapted to render the machine compatible with the performance of a known machine capable of producing dough portions substantially lighter than 0.7 lb.;
- (c) said second distributor is made in the form of a cone having a longitudinal axis which is substantially inclined with respect to a longitudinal development of the machine; and
- (d) said dough cutter has a length corresponding to the length of the cutter in the known machine,
- (e) wherein said dough cutter is adapted to cooperate with said first distributor to produce dough portions within the range of 0.1-0.7 lb. and to cooperate with said second distributor dough to produce dough portions heavier than 0.7 lb.

9. A machine according to claim 8, wherein said second dough distributor is a cone-shaped horizontal distributor which is adapted to cooperate with a dough worm support.

10. A machine according to claim 9, wherein said dough worm support supports a dough worm until said dough cutter cuts said dough worm, thereby avoiding falling of the dough portion prior to cutting.

11. A machine comprising:

- (a) a dough feeding hopper;
- (b) a dough extrusion apparatus comprising:
  - (i) a first dough distributor and
  - (ii) a second dough distributor, interchangeable with said first

dough distributor;

- (c) a dough weight and dimension control apparatus;
- (d) a dough cutting apparatus; and
- (e) an extruded dough portion control apparatus,

wherein:

- (f) said first dough distributor is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutting apparatus and said extruded dough portion control apparatus to produce dough portions in the range of 0.1-0.7 lb. and
- (g) said second dough distributor, when interchanged with said first dough distributor, is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutting apparatus and with said extruded dough portion control apparatus to produce dough portions heavier than 0.7 lb.

12 A machine according to claim 11, wherein said second dough distributor, when interchanged with said first dough distributor, is adapted to cooperate with said dough cutting apparatus and with said extruded dough portion control apparatus to produce dough portions in the range of 0.7-1.5 lb.

13. A machine according to claim 11, wherein:

- (a) said dough extrusion apparatus comprises a screw feeder;
- (b) said first dough distributor is adapted to render the machine compatible with the performance of a known machine capable of producing dough portions substantially lighter than 0.7 lb.;
- (c) said second dough distributor is made in the form of a cone having a longitudinal axis which is substantially inclined with respect to a longitudinal development of the machine; and

- (d) said dough cutting apparatus has a length corresponding to the length of the cutting apparatus in the known machine,
- (e) wherein said dough cutting apparatus is adapted to cooperate with said first dough distributor to produce dough portions in the range of 0.1-0.7 lb. and to cooperate with said second dough distributor to produce dough portions in the range of 0.7-1.5 lb.

14. A machine according to claim 11, wherein said second dough distributor is a cone-shaped horizontal distributor which is adapted to cooperate with a dough worm support apparatus.

15. A machine according to claim 14, wherein said dough worm support apparatus supports a dough worm until said cutting apparatus cuts the dough worm, thereby avoiding falling of the dough portion prior to cutting.

16. A process for forming dough portions, said process comprising the steps of:

- (a) operating a control handle to pre-select a dough portion weight;
- (b) inserting dough into a hopper to be divided into portions having a pre-selected weight;
- (c) starting a first motor to operate a screw feeder;
- (d) feeding dough from the screw feeder against a paddle, thereby starting a second motor; and
- (e) operating said second motor to rotate a shaft  $360^{\circ}$  to:
  - (i) cut a dough worm which has a pre-selected weight;
  - (ii) rotate a member in one direction to lower a support located under the pre-selected cut dough worm; and
  - (iii) stop the shaft after rotating  $360^{\circ}$  and return said support to an